

Rifles & Pools

HOOSIER RIVERWATCH-INDIANA'S VOLUNTEER WATER MONITORING PROGRAM

Volunteer Water Monitoring Instructor Training

Hoosier Riverwatch is looking for 10 super volunteers to participate in the first Volunteer Water Monitoring Instructor Training. This 2-day (overnight) training will be held **October 13-14** at Camp Alexander Mack in Milford, Indiana (between Fort Wayne and South Bend).

What are Water Monitoring Instructors? Instructors are similar to what other DNR education programs (Project WET, WILD, and Learning Tree) call facilitators. They will:

- ◆ Teach Level 1 and/or 2 training workshops - depending upon experience and comfort level
- ◆ Have the use of Water Monitoring Education Trunks for teaching
- ◆ Serve as a local contact and mentor for volunteer monitors. We hope to have Instructors in regions all around the state.
- ◆ Provide presentations and exhibits to groups about Riverwatch and help recruit new volunteers.

What are the requirements?

- ◆ Level 1 and 2 Riverwatch training
- ◆ Time, motivation, and enthusiasm to organize and conduct workshops

- ◆ Water quality monitoring experience
- ◆ Being comfortable teaching and speaking to small and large groups.

Completion of an Instructor application is required.

Contact us via phone, fax, or email to receive a "job description" and application form. The application is due by **Monday, September 25**. Since the deadline is so soon, we can email, fax, or mail your materials - and you may submit them via your method of choice. You will receive final notification by Friday, September 29.

It is important to note that this is just the **FIRST**, not the last Instructor Training Workshop. Development and operation of this program will be funded by 104(b)(3) and 319 grants from the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) for the next 2 1/2 years. Two Instructor training workshops will be held each year (spring and fall). Each workshop will be limited to 10 participants. If you think you may not be ready for the October training, there will be many more opportunities!

New Training Manual Ready

Well, it's almost ready! The final draft still needs to go through a peer review, then sent to the printer. It will be at least 6 more weeks until the final copies are "hot off the presses!" However, the manual will be available on the new website (see article page 2) in just a couple of weeks.

The new manual will automatically be sent to all Soil and Water Conservation Districts, all 1999-2000 grant recipients, and all 2000 workshop participants. If you are not in one of these groups, please contact us to get on a mailing list for receipt of the new manual.

New Data Sheets!

- ◆ The Citizen's Qualitative Habitat Evaluation Index (CQHEI) will replace the Site Survey data sheet. It is more straightforward and you get a total score at the end!
- ◆ New Standard Chemical data sheet to use with the GREEN Standard Water Monitoring Kit.
- ◆ The Chemical Monitoring data sheet (with the Q-values) now has the prefix "Advanced." It is for use with the Hach kit.

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New Training Manual continued...

- ◆ The major change to the Advanced Chemical Monitoring data sheet is the removal of **Total Solids** from the list of tests needed to get a Water Quality Index rating. The weighting factors were adjusted to account for this change.
- ◆ A Chemical Monitoring Worksheet was created to help track test results and average values when multiple samples are taken. You may also record "optional" test results (e.g. Total Solids, Ammonia).

Besides the data sheets, what else is new? The manual now includes

chemical testing instructions for both the GREEN and Hach chemical testing kits. The biological monitoring section has a new user-friendly format for learning about and identifying the macroinvertebrates.

In addition, the following sections were added: Setting Goals and Planning a Water Study, Quality Assurance and Control, Data Analysis, Action and Evaluation. Instructions for use of the new Volunteer Monitoring Internet Database are also included.

New Website & Volunteer Stream Monitoring Internet Database

A cool new Riverwatch website with updated information, graphics, and a new format will soon be on-line! Both the new website and Volunteer Stream Monitoring Internet Database will be ready in a few weeks. The website will include a link to the new database.

Only volunteers who have been certified through a Hoosier Riverwatch Level 1 and/or 2 training workshop (or approved equivalent) can submit data to the statewide database.

It is important for you to understand that the data entry screens are formatted to match the new & revised data sheets (see previous article about the new training manual). However, we strongly encourage you to enter past data from your Chemical and Biological monitoring data sheets, since these data sheets have not changed significantly.

Instructions are included throughout the database itself. If you have trouble, you can download the training manual from the website. You may also want to keep these instructions with your manual or data sheets until the new website and database are completed and you are ready to enter your data.

Hints for Data Entry:

- ◆ Some fields are required and you can not continue until they are filled-in.

1. The first step is to **Register**. You must register yourself, your organization, and your stream site(s). You will receive a Volunteer ID #, and a Site ID # for each site registered. These numbers are very important - write them down! You also need to know the database password: **dragonfly**.

2. The next step is to **Enter Data**. You need your Volunteer and Site ID #'s here. The password is the same: **dragonfly**.

- ◆ Enter data one site at a time - also enter date, time, and weather.
- ◆ Select which datasheet you want to enter data into: Stream Flow, CQHEI, Advanced Chemical, Biological, or Standard Chemical
- ◆ Some past data sheets cannot be entered (Site Survey and the Site map).

The Standard Chemical data sheet is for use with the GREEN kit. Use the Advanced data sheet with the Hach kit. Only enter chemical testing data on one of these data sheets, not both.

The database performs most data calculations for you when you click on "*Review Data and View Calculations*." The next screen displays final results you can print for your files. Finally, click on "*Submit to Hoosier Riverwatch*" to submit your final results. After this step, the only way revisions can be made is by contacting the Hoosier Riverwatch office.

Riverwatch Training Workshop Update

More workshops are being held around this state this summer than in 1998 and 1999 combined! We have held 22 workshops and trained 300 volunteers in Level 1 and/or 2 stream monitoring so far this year. And, although we have 10 more work-shops scheduled for this fall, they are all full (and have waiting lists). The training schedule for 2001 will be published next spring and summer.

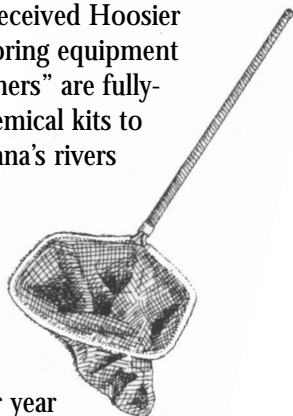
Hoosier Riverwatch training workshops would not be possible without the support of the local hosts and sponsors who make site arrangements, take registrations, and publicize the events. We personally wish to thank these 24 individuals and organizations for their support of the Hoosier Riverwatch training program this year!

Darci Zolman (Kosciusko SWCD)
John Rouch (Water Watchers)
Stacey McGinnis (Noble SWCD)
B.J. Ault (Dearborn SWCD)
Mary Cutler (Tippecanoe Co. Parks)
Susan Belt (Craig Middle School)
David Dick (Craig Middle School)
Jim Parry (Ruth Lilly YMCA Camp)
Noell Krughoff (Shelby SWCD)
Sarah Brichford (Wildcat Guardians)
Garry Hill (Wildcat Guardians)
Purdue University ENVISION
Bett Etonahan (Falls of the Ohio)
Brett Canaday (Madison SWCD)
Amy Steeples (IDNR)
Nancy Brown (Elkhart SWCD)
Jared Chew (St Joseph SWCD)
Katie McPherson (IDNR)
Gwen Dieter (Owen SWCD)
Marquita Manley
(McCormick's Creek S.P.)
Ken Brunswick
(Friends of the Limberlost)
Kathy Latz
(Wood-Land-Lakes RC&D)
Pete Hippensteel
(Tri-State University)
Chris Kirk
(IN Dunes Env. Learning Center)

Year 2000 Grant Recipients

Congratulations to the seventy nonprofit organizations, schools, and public agencies who received Hoosier Riverwatch volunteer water monitoring equipment grants this year! These "Riverwatchers" are fully-equipped with nets, books, and chemical kits to explore, monitor, and protect Indiana's rivers and streams.

Approximately 283 water monitoring equipment grants have been distributed in Indiana since 1996 (See table at right.). These groups monitor at least 4 times per year and submit reports to Hoosier Riverwatch. Soon all volunteers will enter and retrieve data through the Volunteer Monitoring Internet Database!



Riverwatch Equipment Grants Awarded 1996-2000

	# Grants	Grant %
Schools and Universities	129	46%
Soil & Water Conservation Districts	69	24%
Nonprofit Organizations	57	20%
Other Governmental Agencies	28	10%
TOTALS	283	100%

Of the seventy grants distributed this year, thirty received the Advanced Grant (which includes the Hach chemical testing kit) and forty received the new Standard Grant (which includes the GREEN chemical kit). In addition, another sixty GREEN Standard Water Monitoring kits were distributed to county Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) and past Hoosier Riverwatch grant recipients who requested this new kit on their recent Riverwatch survey.

Grant Recipient

Area 30 Career Center
Austin Middle School
Batesville High School
Boston Middle School
Bradford Woods
Carmel High School
Castle High School
Centerville Elementary School
Centerville High School
Cope Environmental Center
Coulston Elementary School
Danville Community High School
Discovery School
Ensweller Academy
Evansville Day School
Fairview Elementary
Family Life Center of Greene Co.
Fowl Elementary School
Girl Scout Troop 818
Hamilton High School
Hauser Jr/Sr High School
Hebron Middle School
Holliday Park
Imagination Station
Indiana Academy for Science
Indiana Forest Alliance
IPS Broad Ripple High School
IPS Rousseau McClellan School 91
James Madison Accelerated School
Jay County High School
Kesling Middle School
Logansport High School
Marengo Elementary School
Marian College

Location

Greencastle
Austin
Batesville
LaPorte
Martinsville
Carmel
Newburgh
Centerville
Centerville
Centerville
Shelbyville
Danville
Richmond
Gary
Evansville
Bloomington
Bloomfield
Fowl
Depauw
Hamilton
Hope
Hebron
Indianapolis
Lafayette
Muncie
Bloomington
Indianapolis
Indianapolis
South Bend
Portland
LaPorte
Logansport
Marengo
Indianapolis

Grant Recipient

Memorial High School
Monrovia High School
Morristown High School
New Castle Middle School
New Horizons Academy
Oliver Lake Improvement and
Conservation Association
Pendleton Heights Middle School
Pioneer High School
Plymouth Waste Water Treatment
Rocky Ripple Community Association
Ruth Lilly YMCA Outdoor Center
Saint Joseph's High School
Shawswick Middle School
Shelby County SWCD
Shiloh Hill School
Shipshewana-Scott Elem School
Southwestern Jr/Sr High School
Speedway Junior High School
St. Joseph School
St. Simon the Apostle
Steuben County Lakes Council, Inc
Taltree Arboretum and Gardens
Tipton Lakes Community Assn, Inc
University of Saint Francis
Valley Watch Inc.
Vigo County SWCD
Wabash High School
Wabash Valley Audubon Society
Wabash Valley Fly Fishers
Waldron Jr/Sr High School
Westchester Middle School
Western Middle School
Whitko Middle School

Location

Elkhart
Monrovia
Morristown
New Castle
Marion
LaGrange
Pendleton
Royal Center
Plymouth
Indianapolis
St. Paul
South Bend
Bedford
Shelbyville
Crawfordsville
Shipshewana
Shelbyville
Speedway
LaPorte
Indianapolis
Angola
Valparaiso
Columbus
Fort Wayne
Evansville
Terre Haute
Wabash
Terre Haute
Terre Haute
Waldron
Chesterton
Russiaville
Larwill

Volunteer Stream Monitor Picnic & NREC Grand Opening

The first Hoosier Riverwatch volunteer appreciation picnic will be held October 7, 2000, at Fort Harrison State Park in Indianapolis. The event will be held in conjunction with a picnic for Project WET (Water Education for Teachers) participants. Riverwatch and Project WET will provide table service, drinks, and cold meat trays. We ask that you bring a side dish or desert to share. Also bring your ideas and questions about water monitoring, organizing a monitoring event, or teaching water quality concepts. We will have time set aside for "round table" discussions and sharing. The event will kick-off at 11:00 a.m.

Immediately following the event (at 2:30 p.m.) join us for the Grand Opening of the Natural Resources Education Center: the new "home" for Hoosier Riverwatch, Go FishIN, Project Learning Tree, Project WET, and Project WILD. In addition to the new offices, the NREC will offer training facilities and two environmental education resource libraries.

If you would like to attend the picnic, you must RSVP. We will send you additional information and directions to the site.

Contact Susan Schultz, Indiana Project WET Coordinator
indianaprojectwet@ameritech.net or 317/562-0788

or Mandy Burk, Riverwatch Volunteer/Outreach Coordinator
riverinfo@ameritech.net or 317/541-0617

Welcome 5 New Adopt-A-River Groups!

4-H Fishing Team -

White River (Spencer)

DNR Outdoor Recreation -

Wildcat Creek (Scenic Section)

IUPUI CEES/Geology - White River (Indianapolis)

Wildcat Guardians - Wildcat Creek (Entire Length)

White River Watchers - White River (Anderson)



***Riffles & Pools* is a quarterly publication of Hoosier Riverwatch.**

Lyn Hartman, Hoosier Riverwatch Coordinator
Fort Harrison State Park - NREC

5785 Glenn Road, Indianapolis, IN 46216-1066

Phone (317) 541-0617 // Fax (317) 562-0790

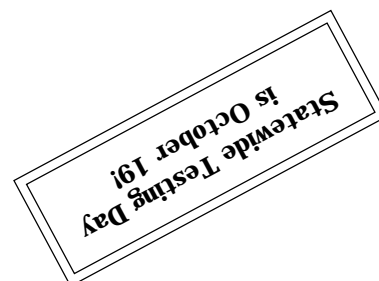
E-mail: HoosierRiverwatch@ameritech.net

Website: www.state.in.us/dnr/soilcons/riverwatch

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HOOSIER RIVERWATCH
Fort Harrison State Park - NREC
5785 Glenn Road
Indianapolis, IN 46216-1066
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